

## LEND-LEASE SETTLEMENT: RETURN OF VESSELS

*Agreement signed at Washington September 27, 1949*

*Entered into force September 27, 1949*

*Expired in December 1951 upon fulfillment of its terms*

63 Stat. 2810; Treaties and Other  
International Acts Series 2060

### AGREEMENT ON DATES AND PROCEDURES FOR RETURN OF THREE ICE- BREAKERS AND TWENTY-SEVEN FRIGATES OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY RECEIVED BY THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS UNDER THE LEND-LEASE ACT <sup>1</sup>

1. The return to United States representatives of the vessels will be accomplished by the Soviet Government using its own crews not later than December 1, 1949.

2. The vessels will be returned and transferred to United States representatives, the frigates at the port of Yokosuka, Japan and the icebreakers at the port of Bremerhaven, Germany as follows:

The Frigates in three groups of nine vessels each by November 15, 1949.

The Icebreaker *North Wind* in October; the Icebreakers *South Wind* and *West Wind* in November.

3. The vessels will be returned with their equipment, spare parts and ammunition, with the exception of that which has been consumed, destroyed or lost during the period of the war.

4. The actual transfer of the vessels will be effected by exchange of a deed of delivery and receipt for each vessel, (exhibit A attached hereto) executed in duplicate both in the English and Russian languages by the Soviet Officer delivering the vessel and by the receiving United States Officer, one copy of the deed in each language to be retained by each country.

5. Should the Soviet Government so desire, the Government of the United States will arrange for or provide the Soviet crews with hotel or barrack accommodations and victuals, consistent with their rank or rate for the period

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<sup>1</sup> 55 Stat. 31.

between disembarking the vessel and departing the port of delivery. Arrangements for the foregoing, including visits ashore, and for other facilities desired for sojourn of the Soviet crews will be coordinated by the Senior United States Naval Commander at the appropriate port (or his representative) upon receipt of written request from the Senior Soviet Officer present. Payment for such accommodations and victuals will be made by the Soviet Government prior to the departure of the crews.

6. The Soviet Government will make the necessary arrangements for and bear the expense of the return of its crews to the Soviet Union.

7. The Senior Officer of a group of vessels returning in company or the Commanding Officer of a vessel returning singly will make application on international frequencies to the Senior United States Naval Commander at the appropriate port, not less than twenty-four hours prior to the estimated time of arrival, for definite instructions as to pilotage, anchorage, ec.

8. The following normal procedure will constitute delivery of the ships:

(a) Vessels will proceed to designated berths, secure all but auxiliary machinery (machinery required for normal operation of the vessel while in port), and maintain watch on such machinery until relieved by United States personnel.

(b) The Soviet crew will remove personal effects and Soviet property. Boating assistance will be provided by the United States if required.

(c) United States crews will begin the reception of each vessel upon its arrival at berth, it being understood that the transfer of each vessel will be completed within three days after the arrival of the vessel at the port of transfer.

(d) The Soviet crew will parade and haul down the Soviet flag with appropriate ceremony.

(e) The deed of delivery and receipt of the vessel, equipment and stores including a statement of abandonment by the Soviet Government of any Soviet property left on board will be executed by the receiving United States Officer and the Soviet Officer delivering the vessel.

(f) The Soviet crew will depart the ship and the remainder of the United States custodial crew will come aboard.

(g) The United States flag will be hoisted.

9. No gun salutes will be fired or returned.

10. The transfers will be made in the simplest and most expeditious manner and with a minimum of ceremony.

11. A representative of the Senior United States Naval Commander at the appropriate port will call upon the Senior Soviet Officer upon arrival; otherwise all official calls will be considered as having been made and returned.

The present agreement is executed in the Russian and English languages and both texts are equally authentic.

For the Government of the United States of America:  
WILLARD L. THORP

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics:

A. PANYUSHKIN

WASHINGTON  
September 27, 1949

EXHIBIT A

DEED  
OF DELIVERY AND RECEIPT

We, the undersigned authorized representatives of the Ministry of the Armed Forces of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, party of the first part, and of the Navy Department of the United States of America, party of the second part, respectively, hereby execute this deed to evidence the fact that the party of the first part has returned and the party of the second part has received and accepted on behalf of the Government of the United States of America the United States

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complete with all machinery, equipment, and stores then on board, all right, title and interest in such machinery, equipment and stores being hereby expressly abandoned by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

This transfer has been accomplished this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1949 at \_\_\_\_\_.

The present deed is executed in the Russian and English languages and both texts are authentic.

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*Authorized Representative of the  
Ministry of the Armed Forces of  
the Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics.*

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*Authorized Representative of the  
Navy Department of the United  
States of America.*